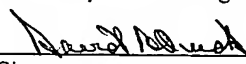


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                  |   |                                |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| In re Application of Hess et al. | ) | Group Art Unit: To be assigned |
|                                  | ) |                                |
| Attorney Docket No. 1867-0082    | ) |                                |
|                                  | ) | Examiner: To be assigned       |
| Application No.: To be assigned  | ) |                                |
|                                  | ) |                                |
| Filed: Herewith                  | ) |                                |
|                                  | ) |                                |
| For: Fire Detector               | ) |                                |

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail"  
"Express Mail" Mailing Label No. EV505540417US  
Date of Deposit December 20, 2004  
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
deposited with the United States Postal Service as  
"Express Mail" in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner  
for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
on December 20, 2004  
(Date of Deposit)  
David B. Quick  
Name of person mailing Document or Fee  
  
Signature  
December 20, 2004  
Date of Signature

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination, kindly enter the following amendments:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.